

Abstract of the Disclosure

A molding machine and method for reducing the length of a mold cycle by enabling access to a previously molded part while the mold is closed. The machine includes a fixed platen and a platen movable toward and away from the fixed platen.

- 5 A turret having a plurality of faces is positioned between the fixed and movable platens such that rotation thereof brings different faces of the turret into alignment with the fixed platen. The fixed platen and at least two opposed turret faces have complementary mold halves that, when closed, define between them the desired shape of a part to be molded. The turret includes an actuator for moving the turret in
- 10 the direction of movement of the movable platen between a molding position in which the mold halves of one turret face and the complementary mold halves of the fixed platen are closed on each other and an open position in which the turret may rotate about its axis of rotation, the actuator being capable of so moving the turret or of not moving the turret independently of the movement of the movable platen. Movement
- 15 of the platen away from the turret without opening the mold enables time-saving access to a previously molded part at the opposite face of the turret.